

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council
Austin, Tex., Jan. 18th 1891.

Regular Meeting

Hon. Lewis Stancott, Mayor, presiding.
Roll called.

Present, Aldermen Beatty, Haynes, Foster, Huhn, Sawless, Linn, Maddox,
Blatt, Powell, Rosengren, Shelley, Shumpli, Taylor and Townsend.
Absent Aldermen Belvin, Fischer, Miller, Stithers, Ridd, Robertson, Schmei-
der and Silver. 8.

On motion, the minutes of the last regular and subsequent called
meetings were adopted as printed.

Alderman Fischer entered the Council Chamber.

Petition of Citizens for
the Lamp Post at the Corner of
the Lamp Post at the Corner of

By Alderman Blatt, Petition of Citizens asking that an Arc Lamp be
placed at the intersection of Congress Avenue and Seventh Street.

On motion of Alderman Powell, the petition was referred to the Water
and Light Committee.

Alderman Stithers entered the Council Chamber.

By Alderman Fischer, Petition of Citizens of West Tenth Street and
West Avenue, asking for correct lines and for having West Tenth Street
graded from Rio Grand Street to Shoal Creek.

On motion of Alderman Powell, the first of the petition, in regard to
lines, was referred to the City Engineer and the remainder, in regard
to grading street, to the Street Committee.

On motion, Alderman Rosengren was excused from further attendance
at this session of the Council.

Aldermen Belvin, Robertson, Miller and Ridd entered the Council
Chamber.

Pet. of Citizens 1st & 2nd Ward
to have Wagon Stand on N. 5th St. removed.

By Alderman Schneider, Petition of Citizens of the First and Second

Wards asking that the wagon stand on West Fifth street be removed.

Read and on motion referred to the Police Committee.

The Mayor laid before the Council a petition from W. R. Gains, President
of Tillotson Institute, asking that the stock ordinance be extended so
as to include that part of the City. Read and on motion referred to the
Police Committee.

The Mayor then laid before the Council the following message:

Mayor's Office,

Austin, Texas, Jan., 18th 1891.

To the Honorable City Council:

Gentlemen, It is my duty to again call your attention to the condition
of the general revenue. In my message to you on December 17th last,
your attention was called to the fact that the general revenue for the
current fiscal year, including the sums which might be derived from
the Conning Fund, would not exceed \$0,000,000. It was further shown
you that the expenditures for this year, it would upon the basis of
last year's expenditures, would amount to \$1,43,551. It is an excess of expendi-
tures over receipts of \$15,000.00 and that's where we are now. At present, we are
in a position who will do the best in this administration, Mr. Clegg, business men
are not held in much esteem and in all this, with a number of other considerations,

Mayors Message

obligations. I have not heard from any source any suggestion or argument as to the incorrectness of these figures or of the painful conclusions drawn from them, and I trust the Council is satisfied as to both.

With a view to saving the City from falling into this condition of affairs, injurious alike to its credit and the conduct of its business, certain measures were recommended which would effect the necessary reduction in expenditures without, in my opinion, in any way or in the slightest degree decreasing the effectiveness of the City government in protecting the people's interests.

These measures were suggested as the best in my opinion, but not the only ones, and you were asked to bring forward any others which might seem preferable to you. The matter has now been before you three regular meetings, and nearly two months of the fiscal year has passed, and yet no steps have been taken to accommodate the expenditure to the revenue, except a small saving effected by cutting down the Police force. Meanwhile, with the unimportant exception just noted, the City government is running along at the same rate of expenditure as last year, and the passage of every day makes the task of economy that much greater.

Under present conditions it is inevitable that the fiscal year must end amid confusion of the City's affairs, disgrace to its credit and dishonor to its employes and creditors. When the matter is clearly understood by you I do not believe that you, as the guardians of the City's interests, will consent to these. As Mayor, I can not do so.

The situation demands immediate action. Inaction, letting things run along as they are now, is all that is needed to bring on the disaster.

The same number of employes, the same scale of expense, and at the end of the month appropriation ordinances which must be passed because because the services have been rendered. It does not seem to me possible that with the true condition of affairs laid before you and the effect of this inaction well understood, you will allow it to continue. As Mayor, I regard it as inconsistent with my duty to assent to it. I urge you to give the matter your immediate and serious consideration. Can you not, at least a majority of you, get together for the good of the City and agree upon some reasonable and practicable legislation which will at once put the expenditures upon a proper basis? I believe you can do so, and I earnestly hope you will.

Respectfully,

Lewis Haddock, Mayor.

Alderman Schneider entered the Council Chamber.

Mayors Message referred to Alderman Tischer moved that the message of the Mayor be referred to a Special Committee of five.

Alderman Goberman, as a substitute, moved that the message be referred to the Finance Committee, with instructions to report at the next session of the Council the annual budget provided for by the Mayor, which motion was lost by the following vote:

Messrs. Danner (President), Peck, Tischer and Goberman, 11
Messrs. Vicker, Sisson, Hayes, Foster, Foss, Seward, Simon, Goberman,

Blatt, Powell, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, and Townsend.
The motion of Alderman Stitscher to refer to a special committee of ¹⁴
was then adopted and the Mayor appointed the following named Aldermen
as the Committee viz:

Aldermen Stitscher, Lawless, Beatty, Robertson and Shelley.

Alderman Fischer for the Water and Light Committee presented a report
stating that the committee had received the following bids for water to
be used for street sprinkling purposes:

Victor Mather bid \$25. per month.

E. C. Goodwin bid \$35.00 per month

Bat Rail bid \$81.50 per month.

Award of contract for Water Bat Rail being the highest bidder; they recommended that his bid be
for Street Sprinkling award accepted, and that the Mayor be authorized to enter into contract with
the Bat Rail @ \$81.50 per month said Bat Rail, and that he be required to enter into bond in the sum
of \$1000 for the faithful performance of his contract.

City Attorney directed to draw up contract & bond
The report was adopted and the City Attorney instructed to draw up
the bond which is to be approved by the Mayor and City Attorney.

Alderman Powell for the Police Committee, to whom was referred the
Police Com's report on Marshall's report of the City Marshal for the month of December, presented their
report, stating that the report had been examined and found correct.
The report of the committee was adopted.

Alderman Ziller entered the Council Chamber.

On motion the ordinance committee was granted further time in
which to make their report on certain matters referred to them.

Claims & Acc'ts Com's report on Pet. of R. J. Hill, Treasurer.
Alderman Blatt, for the Claims and Accounts Committee, to whom was
referred the petition of R. J. Hill, Treasurer, in regard to certain pen-
alties and costs on property heretofore sold for taxes be remitted,
presented their report recommending that the petition be granted.

On motion the report of the Committee was adopted.

Claims & Acc'ts Com's report on Pet. of Wm Hayes.
Alderman Blatt, for the Committee on Claims and Accounts, to whom
was referred the petition of William Hayes to have certain penalties
paid by him on taxes for the year 1895, ^{referred} presented their report recom-
mending that the petition be not granted. The report of the committee
was adopted.

Alderman Hayes, for the Printing Committee, made a verbal report,
stating that the Committee had interviewed the Statesman and the
Evening News, and that they had declined to submit another bid, and
that the Committee could not recommend the acceptance of the bids here-
tofore submitted.

Alderman Sinn moved that the matter be referred to the special
committee appointed on the message of the Mayor, which motion prevailed.

Lumber Com's report on wood & timber to furnish.
Alderman Sinn for the Purchasing Committee, presented a report
stating that they had awarded the contract for furnishing the City
pits, rock to Mr. Austin, Carl and Son Co. at 5.69 per ton, and Mr. A.
H. Morris be authorized to enter into contracts with them, at the will
of the members of the Committee, upon adjustment.

Other business - Alderman Blatt, Alderman Hayes, Alderman Sinn, Alderman Stitscher,
Alderman Ziller, Alderman Powell, Alderman Hayes, Alderman Blatt, Alderman Sinn, Alderman Stitscher,

Spec. Com. on sale of Wagons
Wales, report substitute Ord.
defining duties of Street Commis:

The special committee to whom was referred the ordinance providing for the sale of the City teams and wagons presented a substitute for said ordinance and recommending the passage of the substitute.

The substitute being, "An ordinance defining the duties of Street Commissioner of the City of Austin and repealing an ordinance defining the duties of Street Commissioner of the City of Austin, passed January 20th, 1896, ^{"and approved January 27, 1896."} was then passed, under suspension of the rules, by the following vote: Yeas Aldermen Beatty, Belvin, Fischer, Haynes, Norton, John Lawless, Linn, Maddox, Miller, Kitzscher, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdeau, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf and Townsend 19.
Nays Aldermen Taylor and Zilker 1.

Resolutions adopted in
death of Frank Hamilton.

Alderman Linn offered the following resolutions and asked their adoption:

Whereas, One of Austin's most distinguished citizens has passed away, Frank Hamilton is dead; and,
Whereas, It is meet and proper that this body should express its appreciation of his life public services and untiring efforts in behalf of this city, therefore be it

Resolved, First, that in the death of Frank Hamilton this City has lost its most liberal energetic and enterprising citizen; that in his death there has passed away one who was ever foremost and most zealous in every undertaking looking to the welfare and upbuilding of this City;

Resolved, Second, that we, as the representatives of the people of the City of Austin, retain grateful recollections of his splendid services to the City and a full appreciation of his worth as a citizen; and that we sincerely deplore his death;

Resolved, Third, that we hereby tender to his bereaved family assurances of our tenderest sympathy in their great loss;

Resolved, Fourth, that a copy of these resolutions suitably engrossed, be sent to his Mother Mrs. Mary G. Hamilton and to his eldest daughter, Mrs. John Doorn, and that a copy be furnished to the daily press for publication.

After feeling and touching remarks by Alderman Linn and Mayor Stanco, the resolutions were unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Council.

Ord. Appropriating \$20 to
pay salaries of Aldermen for
Jan. 1896.

City Alderman Townsend, An ordinance appropriating the sum of

\$20. to pay per diem of Alderman for the month of January 1896.

The ordinance was read first time, and on motion the rules were suspended and the ordinance placed upon its second reading by the following vote:

Yeas Aldermen Beatty, Belvin, Fischer, Haynes, Norton, John Lawless, Linn, Maddox, Miller, Kitzscher, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdeau, Schneider, Stumpf, Townsend and Zilker 19.
Nays Alderman Taylor and Zilker 1.

The ordinance was read second time and on motion made to suspend it, and, as it did not pass, ordinance on the first reading, which motion was lost by the following vote.

Ord. authorizing sum \$3535.60 to day
Salaries of Officers & employees in
January 1891.

Dear Aldermen Fischer, Haynes, Kuhn, Lawless, Linn, Miller, Stitschke, Platt,
Powell, Redd and Townsend 11.

Stays Aldermen Bealy, Belvin, Horton, Maddox, Roberdan, Schneider, Shelley,
Stumpf, Taylor and Gilmer 10.

By Alderman Townsend, An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$3535.60
to pay Salaries of Officers and Employees of the City for the month of
January 1891.

The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote:
Dear Aldermen Bealy, Belvin, Fischer, Haynes, Horton, Kuhn, Lawless, Linn,
Maddox, Miller, Stitschke, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdan, Schneider, Shelley,
Stumpf, Taylor, Townsend and Gilmer 21.
Stays None.

Res. 5 appointed to act with
City Attorney, looking to compromise with the City Attorney to see what compromise can be made with
city of citizens in regard to valuation
Lind v. C.W.A. Equalization
Alderman Shelley moved that a committee of five be appointed to act
with the City Attorney to see what compromise can be made with
citizens who have instituted suit against the City in regard to valua-
tions fixed by the Board of Equalization, and that they report the
result to the next meeting of the Council.

Alderman Linn, President of the Council, was called to the chair.
Alderman Taylor moved that the committee be elected by the Council
which motion was lost.

The resolution of Alderman Shelley was then adopted and the chair
appointed Aldermen Shelley, Townsend, Belvin, Powell and Fischer as
the special committee.

Ord. authorizing redemption of
Real Estate sold for taxes & in Real Estate heretofore sold for taxes and bid in by the City
in by the City.

By Alderman Taylor, An ordinance authorizing the redemption of
Real Estate sold for taxes & in Real Estate heretofore sold for taxes and bid in by the City.

The ordinance was passed, under suspension of the rules by the
following vote:

Dear Aldermen Bealy, Belvin, Fischer, Haynes, Horton, Kuhn, Lawless,
Linn, Maddox, Miller, Stitschke, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdan,
Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, Townsend and Gilmer 21.
Stays None.

Ord. appropriating \$1786.60 to
pay approved City Earnings Fund
By Alderman Fischer, An ordinance appropriating the sum of
\$1786.60 out of the Earnings Fund for the purpose of paying ap-
proved accounts.

The ordinance was passed, under suspension of the rules by the
following vote:

Dear Aldermen Bealy, Belvin, Fischer, Haynes, Horton, Kuhn, Lawless,
Linn, Maddox, Miller, Stitschke, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdan,
Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, Townsend and Gilmer 20.
Stays Alderman Stumpf 1.

Ord. appropriating \$200. to day
Salaries of Employees & Part
By Alderman Fischer, An ordinance appropriating the sum of
\$200. out of the Earnings Fund for the purpose of paying salaries
of Employees of the Water and Light Dept.

The ordinance was passed, under suspension of the rules by the following vote:
Dear Aldermen (Redd), Belvin, Fischer, Haynes, Horton, Kuhn, Lawless, Linn,
Maddox, Miller, Stitschke, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdan, Schneider, Shelley,
Stumpf, Taylor, Townsend and Gilmer 20.
Stays (None) 11.

Ord. appropriating \$100 to pay
Extra Street Laborers.

By Alderman Stitschke, An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$100. for the
purpose of paying for extra street labor.

The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules, by the following vote:
Yea Aldermen Beatty, Belvin, Fischer, Haynes, Horton, Huhn, Lawless, Sinn,
Maddox, Miller, Stitschke, Blatt, Powell, Redd, Roberdeau, Schneider, Shelley
and Townsend. 16.

Nays Aldermen Stumpf, Taylor and Zilker 3.

Ord. Pow. instructed to prepare
Ord. regarding Building Permits

Alderman Sinn moved that the ordinance committee be instructed
to prepare an ordinance in regard to building permits which motion
prevailed.

On motion, Alderman Sinn was excused from further attendance at
this session of the Council.

Resolution directing Street
Commissioner to have City
Teams & laborers work on New
W. & W. St. after Feb. 1st. 1903

Alderman Shelley offered a resolution instructing the Street Com-
missioner to place all the City teams and laborers at work on Congress
Avenue and Pecan Street on and after February 1st next.

Alderman Maddox moved to amend by excepting two teams or more
in case of an emergency.

Alderman Redd moved as a substitute that the Street Commissioner
be granted authority to use the teams at any place in his judgment
for the good of the City.

Alderman Stumpf moved to table the whole matter, which motion
prevailed by the following vote:

Yea, Aldermen Beatty, Belvin, Haynes, Horton, Huhn, Lawless, Stitschke,
Blatt, Powell, Redd, Schneider, Stumpf, Townsend and Zilker 14.

Nays Aldermen Fischer, Maddox, Miller, Roberdeau, Shelley & Taylor 6.

On motion of Alderman Lawless, the Council adjourned.

J.W. Johnson
City Clerk.